HONDA Service Bulletin 07-008

Applies To: **ALL** **February 2, 2007**

Clarification of Honda Unibody Repair Policy

BACKGROUND

Honda automobiles and trucks are built to precise standards so that they can perform well under many situations. For example, they offer a firm responsive ride yet yield when necessary under the forces of a collision to help protect the vehicle occupants.

HONDA REPAIR POLICY

Sectioning Frame Components

When body repairs are necessary, Honda recommends that any repairs be performed by an experienced professional, using the Honda body repair manual, and that component replacement be accomplished along factory seams. Failure to do so can result in a number of problems, including improperly fitting parts, noises, tire wear, and most importantly, changes in vehicle dynamics and occupant protection in a subsequent crash.

In particular, **Honda strongly recommends against the process of joining cut pieces from separate vehicles—commonly referred to as clipping. This is not an authorized Honda repair method**. Any problem with other components resulting from such improper vehicle repairs is not covered under Honda's factory or extended warranties.

Also, because what's in a part is as important as how it looks, Honda strongly recommends the use of Honda Genuine repair parts. The material used to create the part, such as high-strength steel, and the subtle shapes of the part, determine how it will perform in normal operation or in a subsequent collision. Using Honda Genuine repair parts helps return the vehicle to its pre-crash condition.

ADHESIVES/WELDING

Using adhesives in place of welding for component replacement is not an authorized Honda repair method. It is important to repair at factory seams using the same procedure as the factory assembly process except where specified otherwise in the Honda body repair manual. The door skin is **welded** at the top and is **glued** around the crimp. Each body repair manual states that if the reinforcement in the door is damaged, the complete door must be replaced.

NOTE: Because they are made of high-strength steel, door and bumper reinforcements must not be repaired or straightened.

INFORMATION RESOURCES

Extensive research and development goes into every Honda to provide safety for those inside as well as outside the vehicle. Therefore, it is critical that collision repair facilities do not change a vehicle during collision repair. Please visit the following websites for further information about Honda safety:

- *world.honda.com/safety, and*
- *world.honda.com/news/2003/4030904_2.html*

Body repair manuals are available for every new Honda model series that is sold in the U.S. Each manual provides instructions for proper repair procedures, and drawings that show where each factory seam and weld on the vehicle is located. In a few instances, the manual also indicates where it is acceptable to cut panels and sections other than at factory seams.

Body repair manuals can be purchased from Helm, Inc. using one of these methods:

- Call Helm Inc. at 1-800-782-4356
- Go online at *www.helminc.com*

Collision repair facilities can also subscribe to all manuals at ***www.serviceexpress.honda.com.***

Dealers can log onto ISIS and view body repair manuals in the **Search By Publication** section.

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Skill Level R REPAIR

CUSTOMER INFORMATION: The information in this bulletin is intended for use only by skilled technicians who have the proper tools, equipment, and training to correctly and safely maintain your vehicle. These procedures should not be attempted by "do-it-yourselfers," and you should not assume this bulletin applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle has the condition described. To determine whether this information applies, contact an authorized Honda automobile dealer.